



## Government of The United States Virgin Islands OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

MEDIA CONTACT PERSON: Director Patrick Farrell 340-774-VETS (8387)

11 May 2020

## **Virgin Islands Veterans to Be Tested for COVID-19**

The VA Caribbean Healthcare System will begin testing Veterans residing in the Virgin Islands for COVID-19 at their clinic locations on St. Croix and St. Thomas. **Testing will be done by appointment only.** Testing will take place 2 days a week for the next 4 weeks beginning on Monday May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020. On Monday's testing will take place at the St. Croix VA Clinic which is located at the Village Mall in Baron Spot and on Wednesdays at the St. Thomas VA Clinic which is located in the Medical Foundation building behind the Roy Lester Schneider Hospital. Testing at both locations will take place outside of the actual clinics using a drive-thru type scenario.

Veterans residing in the US Virgin Islands that are going to be tested already have been identified and contacted to inform them of their appointment. This does not preclude other Veterans from getting tested. Fifty (50) Veterans have been scheduled for the first day with the possibility of an additional 20 Veterans being tested. Any Veteran feeling the need to be tested because of having any COVID-19 related symptoms are asked to call the VA Clinical Contact Center at 1-877-741-3400 for further instructions prior to visiting the VA clinic.

The VA Caribbean Healthcare System, the Virgin Islands Department of Health and the Virgin Islands Office of Veterans Affairs have collaborated on a plan for any Veteran found to be positive or displaying symptoms of COVID-19.

For more information on how the VA Caribbean Healthcare System is responding to the COVID-19 pandemic please visit <a href="www.caribbean.va.gov/emergency">www.caribbean.va.gov/emergency</a> or call Director Farrell of the Virgin Islands Office of Veterans Affairs at (340) 774-8387.